#1 of 10: Share of Arriving Households From the Top Three States

65.5% of new arrivals come from just three states

Salt Lake City-Murray leads Utah in migration concentration

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THE DATA

65.5%

Share of Arriving Households From the Top Three States (2024)

This level of concentration is unmatched across Utah's major metro areas.

The Salt Lake City-Murray market’s inbound migration is uniquely dominated by three states: Utah, California, and Arizona. This concentration reflects a powerful, self-reinforcing magnetism — not just for newcomers, but for specific types of households. The high share of out-of-state arrivals from just three sources suggests a streamlined, predictable influx, enabling targeted infrastructure and service planning.



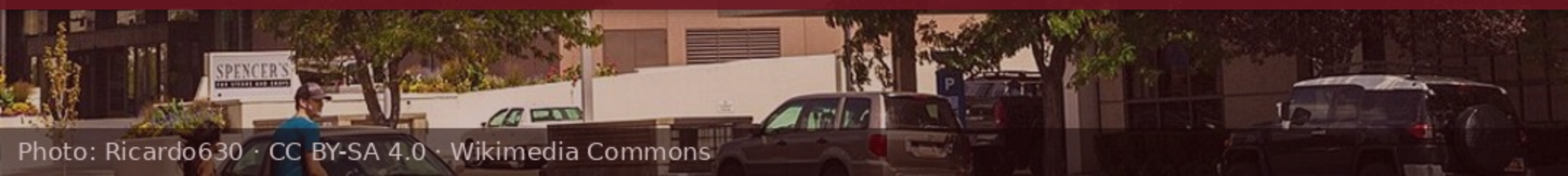
Photo: Mx. Granger · CC0 · Wikimedia Commons

Source: U.S. Internal Revenue Service, Statistics of Income Migration Data, county-to-county inflows, 2023-24 · ALEX Intelligence computation
https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-11-29-slc-murray-mig-state-top3

01

Migration clustering enables faster urban adaptation

When 65.5% of new households come from a narrow set of states, the market can anticipate cultural norms, housing preferences, and economic behaviors with greater precision. This predictability reduces friction in housing, retail, and public service delivery. For example, demand for Southern California-style homes, California-based amenities, or Arizona-style outdoor lifestyles can be planned in advance — accelerating adaptation and reducing the costs of trial-and-error urban expansion.



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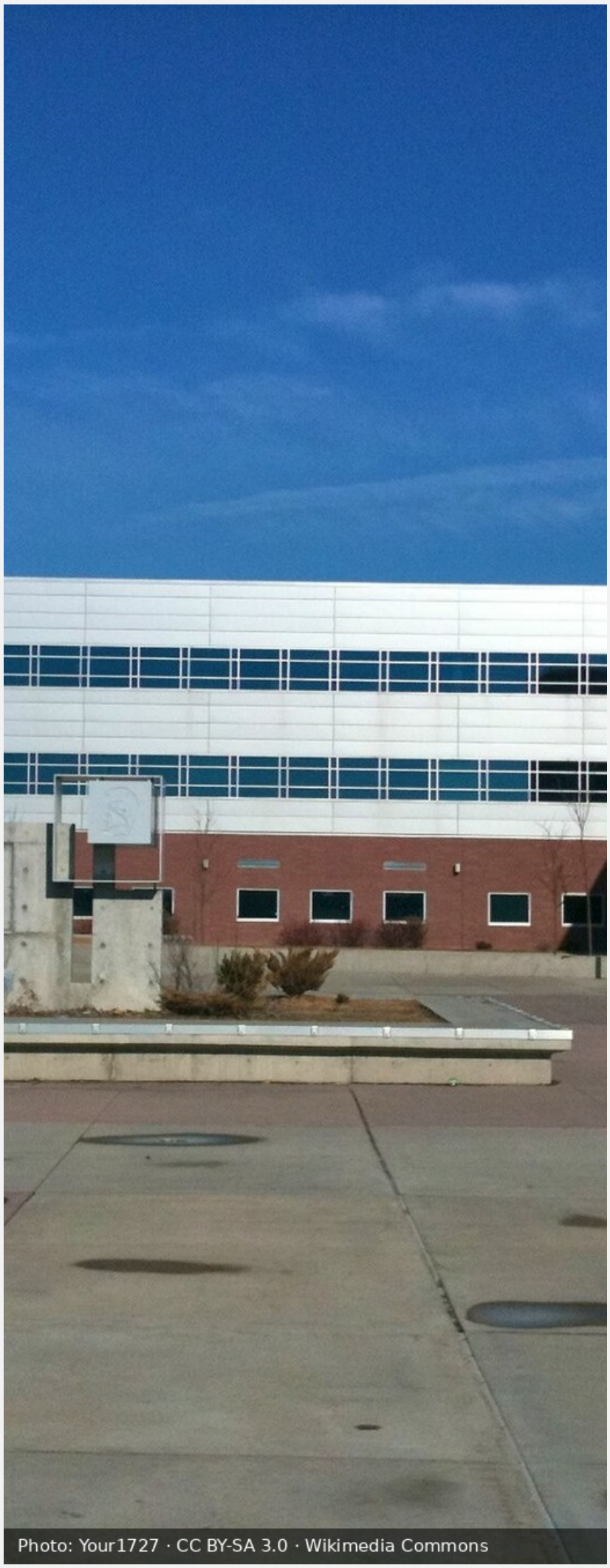

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02

High concentration signals deep market integration

This migration pattern is not random; it reflects a long-term shift in regional identity. The fact that three states — especially California and Arizona — consistently send large numbers of households to Salt Lake City-Murray indicates that the market has become a recognized alternative to high-cost coastal metros. The concentration is not a sign of isolation, but of deep integration into a broader Western U.S. mobility network — making it a preferred destination for those seeking affordability without sacrificing lifestyle.

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